FMF Warfare Changes Affect Active Duty Junior Sailors

The enlisted Fleet Marine Force (FMF) warfare specialist program now requires all active-duty junior enlisted Sailors assigned to FMF commands to complete qualifications within their first 18 months aboard. The change affects junior corpsmen, dental technicians and religious programs specialists.

Other changes to the FMF instruction allow medical and dental treatment facility personnel assigned to operational platforms augmenting Marine Corps commands to participate in the FMF warfare program. All full-time support personnel assigned to Marine Forces Reserve commands can earn their FMF warfare devices now.

To earn the FMF warfare device, Sailors must not only meet the eligibility criteria as outlined in OPNAV instruction 1414.4A, but also be recommended by their chain of command. Candidates must pass written and oral board examinations and receive at least one observed evaluation, scoring no less than a 3.0, and have a minimum "promotable" advancement recommendation.

"It's a visible sign to all the Marines you're serving with, if you're wearing that FMF pin, you are there to support them," said Chief Hospital Corpsman (FMF/DV/PJ) Brian Hollen, Marine Forces corpsman career planner, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery. "You're more than just part of the medical department—you're part of that Marine unit."

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